

Series I  
Correspondence,  
1932-1973

Box 2, Folder 25

January 4, 1957 -  
April 11, 1957

0933

Box III  
Outgoing Personal, 1957

- Dear Tom (Admiral Robbins), 19 December 1957  
Discussion of Eccles book Logistics in the National Defense
- Dear Lillian (Mrs. McCormick), 10 December 1957  
Comments and NWC and Newport
- Dear Jack (Bergen), 8 November 1957  
Review of Battle Evaluation Group attitudes and policy
- Dear Dan (Admiral Barbey), 8 October 1957  
Discussion of Leyte Campaign
- Dear Jack (Bergen), 1 October 1957  
Notes on President Eisenhower's golf in Newport
- Dear Cat (Admiral Brown), 14 August 1957  
Naval War College necktie
- Dear Al (Mumma), 4 January 1957  
Illness aboard USS BLACKFISH, 1944, probably caused by carbon tetrachloride

0934

4 January 1957

Dear Al:

I noted, in analyzing the operations of the submarines in the Battle for Leyte Gulf, October 1944, that the crew of the submarine BLACKFISH encountered what they termed a "plague". The commanding officer, in his war patrol report, stated, in part,

"The plague which struck the boat for a period of about ten days is still in question as to the cause. Upon surfacing at night, after all day dives, about ninety per cent of the crew would become very ill, many vomiting and unable to stand their watches."

In addition, the Commander Submarine Division SIXTY-TWO, in his forwarding endorsement to War Patrol Report BLACKFISH, stated,

"3. About 90% of the crew were sick to various degrees for about 9 days. On the ships return to port two nearly empty gallon cans of carbon tetrachloride which had loose lids on them were found aboard. It is believed the sickness was caused by lead poisoning (Whence came this idea?) from this carbon tetrachloride. This again emphasizes the fact that carbon tetrachloride should not be carried aboard submarines."

It would be interesting to know whether or not it is permissible to use carbon tetrachloride today and, if so, what the instructions regarding its use are. Judging from the publication "United States Navy Safety Precautions" (OPNAV 34Pl, 1953, Chapter 14, Section 3, Paragraph 14309), carbon tetrachloride and other solvents of similar character are allowed in Navy installations on a very limited basis and must be used under careful supervision.

Since the illness of the crew of the BLACKFISH seriously interfered with its efficiency for a period of about 9 - 10 days, I feel that there is a submarine battle lesson here worthy of being placed in the study of the analysis "The Battle for Leyte Gulf" which would emphasize the need for completely avoiding the use of such solvents.

I feel that you probably know more about this than anyone else and therefore I am writing this to you personally

0935

4 January 1957

with the hope that you will have in your bureau the information I desire and will be pleased to forward it to me.

With best regards to you and yours for a happy New Year, I am, as ever,

Your old friend,

R. W. BATES

RADM Albert G. Mumma, USN  
Chief, Bureau of Ships.  
Navy Department  
Washington 25, D.C.

0936

January 8, 1957

Dear Joe:

Thank you very much for the papers which you sent to me relative to Litton Industries and Varian Associates. I imagine that Jocelyn has this information, but I am sending it on to him.

Both of the above companies seem to be very good. I don't see why I didn't hear about them before and why I didn't hear about them in California even though I have been there four or five times over the past two years. The agents in New York told me I could have bought them for eight cents a share two years ago and today one stock is selling at \$30 and the other at about \$18. That's the way life is; if you don't have any knowledge where the leaks are, you can't find the source of the water.

I enjoyed seeing you very much out on the coast. It was very kind of you to have dinner with me at the Club a couple of times, and, all in all, you helped to make my trip pleasant.

I hope things are going along well with you and that the Washington situation is to your liking.

With best regards, with many thanks for your thoughtfulness, and with best wishes for a happy New Year, I am, as ever,

Your old friend,

R. W. BATES

Mr. J. Joseph Sullivan  
111 Sutter Street  
San Francisco 4, Calif.

0937

January 8, 1957

Dear Jack:

I haven't been to Washington recently so I haven't any information relative to what is going on down there regarding the Reserve Selection Board, but, when I was in California over the holidays, I heard a rumor that it was to convene on the 17th of this month.

I am particularly interested, of course, in the case of Commander J. Joseph Sullivan, who is one of the top boys in the Navy League in the San Francisco area as well as elsewhere and who, as you know, recently visited New Orleans.

I don't know why he was not promoted last year, but I have reason to believe, from what I heard out on the coast, that he is greatly superior to some of those promoted and, in fact, has even been their instructor.

He does not seem to know why he was not promoted; he may know, but I doubt it since he would have told me.

Do you happen to know who is on the Reserve Selection Board which will consider the selection of Commanders for Captain?

Outside of that, I hope things are going well with you and your family. I know that you are having weather similar to ours up here, although the weather here hasn't been too bad as long as one has chains on ones car and one is smart enough to wear over-shoes.

The War College is going "great guns". It has just reopened for the second half and I think everyone is happy about it. The Foreign Officers are making themselves felt in Newport; that is, some of them are,

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January 8, 1957

because I see them around. Among these are the Turk, the Thailander, the Brazilian, and some of the Latin-American representatives. The Japanese commander does not go around much but everybody likes him as he took part in the War College "cabaret" and was extremely funny. This was so because he played a role in the play, "Madam Butterfly" which, in this case, was entitled, "Madam Flutterby" and he could rarely remember his lines, excepting the line, "I am younger than my Mother"--the rest of the time he jabbered in Japanese (with false teeth in his mouth and looking like the American concept of a Japanese. All in all, he had the place in convulsions!

I hope things are going along as well as ever and that you have no ill-effects from your serious operation of last year.

With best regards to you and yours, and with best wishes for a very happy New Year, I am, as ever,

Your old friend,

R. W. BATES

RADM J. J. Bergen, USNR  
40 Wall Street  
New York, N.Y.

0939

January 18th, 1957

Dear Draper:

I want to thank you very much for your interest in the work of my office. I appreciate your personal interest in keeping the matter alive with the proper authorities, and I hope that the opinion in the end will be that it is worth while and that it will be continued.

The Naval War College, that is all presidents and all chiefs of staff have been completely sold on my work and therefore I don't feel that I am on unfirm ground when men like Spruance, Conolly, McCormick, Brown, Don Felt and Tommy Robbins all have given it their strong support.

In this connection I have just received a letter from Rear Admiral T.C. Ragan on the Brazilian Mission in which he says that the Brazilian War College is very pleased with the War College analyses. I guess he meant the U.S. officers on the staff!

I expect to be in Washington Tuesday and most of Wednesday as I wish to discuss some matters in BuPers and with Judge Eller. I hope to be over in the Pentagon part of that time in which case I will drop in to see you. I will be staying at the University Club.

With best regards, I am as ever,

Your old friend,

Captain D.L. Kauffman, USN  
Naval Aide  
Department of the Navy  
Office of the Under Secretary  
Washington, D.C.

0940



23 January 1957

Dear Bill:

In reply to your letter of January 17th a careful search of the records available here shows that we have nothing on the training of destroyers in 1942. However, the RADFORD's War Diaries do give a fairly comprehensive picture of the underway training after commissioning.

As your father remarked in a letter to me it was mostly a "catch as catch can" method of training. But it must have been adequate as attested by the favorable comment by superiors-in-command after the RADFORD's first two actions.

For the pre-commissioning period of the training I think that you will have to rely on the memories of those officers and men attached to her.

I recall that at the end of the war all ships and stations were required to forward a history of the command's activities during the war period. These histories are probably in the hands of the Public Information Officer at the Navy Department in Washington. A further source of information is the ship's log which is retained by the Bureau of Naval Personnel in Washington. The older ones are all on microfilm.

I am enclosing some excerpts from the War Diaries and also from the first two action reports which report on a bombardment of Japanese shore installations on Guadalcanal and a bombardment of the Kula Gulf area. In addition there is a poem which I think you might find personally interesting.

I appreciate that you will be pressed to meet your deadline and Captain Gimber tells me that this is also examination time at the Academy. Best of luck!

Very sincerely,

R. W. BATES

Kidshipman W. K. ROMOSER, Jr., USN  
3123 Bancroft Hall  
U.S. Naval Academy  
Annapolis, Maryland

0941

U.S.S. RADFORD . . . EXCERPTS FROM WAR DIARIES

21 July, 1942 to 31 August, 1942

Named for: Rear Admiral William Radford, USN  
Authorized: March 27, 1934  
Keel laid: October 2, 1941, Federal Shipbuilding & Drydock Co.  
Launched: May 3, 1942  
Sponsor: Mrs. Francois E. Mattes, Granddaughter  
Delivered: July 21, 1942 at Navy Yard, New York  
Commissioned: July 22, 1942 at Navy Yard, New York

July 23-31: Alterations and outfitting.  
August 1-4: Alterations and outfitting.  
August 5-6: Underway and received ammunition. Depermed.  
August 6-8: Underway, gunnery, engineering drills and exercises, magnetic compass compensation, RDF calibration, test firing guns.  
August 9-15: Navy Yard, New York for repair of superheater #4 boiler.  
August 16-17: Engineering and gunnery training.  
August 18: Underway for Casco Bay.  
August 19-31: Training: Structural test firing, SRBP, ASW with tame submarine, ASW escort for USS MASSACHUSETTS, fired AA "Baker" practice and day spotting practice, augmented escort for convoy, and searched for reported submarine.

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September, 1942

September 1-3: Daily training Casco Bay area. Fired AA practices and ASW screen MASSACHUSETTS.  
September 4-8: Enroute to, screening and assisting in salvage of burning USS WAKEFIELD. September 8: Salvage group arrived Halifax, N. S.  
September 8-9: Enroute Casco Bay conducting engineering and general drills.  
September 10-12: Daily training Casco Bay area. LCBP and ASW screen training.  
September 13-14: Local escort, fired LCBP and conducted unsuccessful search for reported submarine.  
September 15-17: Fired BTP and AABP. Conducted engineering trials.  
September 18: COMDESLANT conducted surprise material and personnel inspection.  
September 19-20: Enroute Navy Yard, New York. Conducted full power run.

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September 20-25: Undergoing repairs and installation of new sound dome.  
 September 25: COMDESDIV FORTY-TWO came on board and assumed command of DESDIV FORTY-TWO. (No record of departure; possibly September 29).  
 September 26: ASW exercises with tame submarine.  
 September 26-27: Enroute Norfolk.  
 September 28-29: Escorting USS INDIANA to Casco Bay.  
 September 28: RADFORD temporarily assigned to DESDIV FORTY.  
 September 30: Conducted ASW and shore bombardment practice. Set course for Portsmouth, N. H. to pick up USS HOUSATANIC.

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#### October, 1942

October 1-2: Escorting HOUSATANIC to Norfolk.  
 October 3: ISE, Norfolk area. Struck wooden hulk damaging both propellers and reduction gears.  
 October 4-29: Undergoing repairs.

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#### November, 1942

November 1-25: Undergoing repairs and post repair trials.  
 November 26-28: Fueled, depermed, loaded stores, ISE (compensated magnetic compass, fired AA practice and reported for duty to CTF 32).  
 November 29-30: Escorting convoy to New York.  
 November 30: Dropped convoy off Ambrose Light and started return. Ship handling drill and 40MM practice.

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#### December, 1942

December 1: Fired 5"/38, 40MM and 20MM AA practices. Arrived Norfolk.  
 December 2-4: Loading and reinstalling #5 and 6 20MM guns.  
 December 5-11: Enroute Canal Zone in company with WICHITA (CTF 32), CLEVELAND, SUWANNEE, SANGAMON, JENKINS, WALLER, EDWARDS and CONWAY. Conducted radar tracking, ASW, AA tracking, AA firing, plane guard.  
 December 12: Transited Panama Canal. Underway for Noumea, New Caledonia. TF redesignated TF 18. ASW with tame submarine.  
 December 12-31: Enroute Noumea. Conducted daily training exercises including A/C attack, night torpedo attack, tracking, AA tracking, fueling, ASW, various

0943

screening exercises, night starshell firing,  
firing AA machine guns, plane guard, AA burst  
firing.

December 28: TF reported for duty to COMSOPAC.

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January, 1943

January 1-4: Enroute Noumea, New Caledonia. Conducting daily drills as above.  
January 4-9: Tender overhaul.  
January 10-11: Screening and assisting USS SHAW (aground at harbor entrance).  
January 12-13: Noumea fueling, etc. January 13: COMDESRON FIVE hoisted his flag in RADFORD. RADFORD reassigned to TF 67.  
January 14-15: Enroute Espiritu Santo Island.  
January 16: At Espiritu Santo Island. COMDESRON FIVE transferred his flag to USS NICHOLAS.  
January 16-17: Enroute Tulagi. Fired 5"/38 offset practice.  
January 18: At anchor Tulagi.  
January 19-20: Shore bombardment Japanese positions Guadalcanal Island and patrolling north of Guadalcanal to intercept "Tokyo Express" which did not show up. Left center torpedo accidentally fired through #1 stack while removing primers. Stack repaired by ship's force.  
January 20: Left center torpedo accidentally fired through #1 stack while removing primers. Stack repaired by ship's force.  
January 20-21: Enroute Espiritu Santo Island.  
January 22-24: Enroute to Kolombangara Island with TF 67 to bombard Japanese positions. Returned to Tulagi.  
January 25-26: Sortied upon report of enemy aircraft and remained off harbor entrance on patrol.  
January 26-27: Patrolling between Guadalcanal and Florida Islands to intercept "Tokyo Express". No contact. Shot down one plane using full radar control\* (expended 35 rounds 5"/38 ammunition). Bombarded Japanese shore positions Guadalcanal Island. Fueled Tulagi and started ASW patrol west of Guadalcanal and Savo Islands.  
January 28: Contacted surfaced submarine which submerged and fired two torpedoes which were avoided. Submarine escaped. Returned Tulagi and then departed for night operations.  
January 29-31: ASW patrol Florida, Guadalcanal and Russell Islands.  
January 31: Shore bombardment of Japanese positions Guadalcanal Island. Returned Tulagi for fuel and returned to ASW patrol.

\* \* \* \* \*

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NOTES: COMDESLANT: Rear Admiral O. Badger, USN  
CTF 32 and CTF 18: Rear Admiral R.C. Giffen, USN  
CTF 67: Rear Admiral W.L. Ainsworth, USN  
CTG 67.5 and COMDESRON FIVE: Captain R. P. Briscoe, USN  
COMDESDIV FORTY-TWO: Commander C.H. Bennett, Jr., USN

\* This is the second plane shot down at night using full radar control (see Vila-Stanmore Plantations Action January 23rd - 24th, 1943).

0945

**EXCERPTS FROM ACTION REPORT**

**BOMBARDMENT OF JAPANESE SHORE INSTALLATIONS, GUADALCANAL ISLAND  
January 19th, 1943**

During the morning of January 19th, 1943, RADFORD in company with NICHOLAS, DE HAVEN and O'BANNON (Task Group 67.5 - Captain R. P. BRISCOE, USN) bombarded Japanese shore positions on the northern coast of Guadalcanal Island. Spotting was by shore fire control parties. Captain Oliffeld, USMC, was on board as Artillery Liaison Officer to assist in the coordination of fire on scheduled targets and selection of targets of opportunity.

Objectives were accomplished and shore party reported that firing was excellent.

Ammunition expended: 500 rounds 5"/38.

CTF 67.5 comment:

"The accuracy and effectiveness of the day's bombardment assignments was outstanding, and contributed much toward the success of the operations."

CTF 67 comment:

"It is also gratifying to note that the Commanding General at Guadalcanal has a very high opinion of the effectiveness of these naval bombardments, and has so expressed himself in a dispatch commending the destroyers for the consistently excellent artillery support afforded his troops in these operations."

0946

**EXCERPTS FROM ACTION REPORT**

**BOMBARDMENT OF VILA and STANMORE PLANTATIONS on KOLOMBANGARA ISLAND  
Night of January 23rd - 24th, 1943**

On the night of January 23rd - 24th RADFORD bombarded the Vila Plantation at the mouth of the Vila River and also Buki and Bambari Harbors. (These places are all located on the north shore of Kula Gulf). Expended 650 rounds of 5"/38 ammunition. During retirement and before daylight she opened fire on an enemy airplane, using full radar control, and this airplane was observed to burst into flames and fall into the sea. Ammunition expended: 105 rounds 5"/38, 52 rounds 40MM, 350 rounds 20MM.

Bombardment group (TG 67.6):

TU 67.6.1

NASHVILLE, HELENA

TU 67.6.2, Captain Briscoe.

NICHOLAS, DE HAVEN, RADFORD, O'BANNON

Comment by CTU 67.6.2 (COMDESRON FIVE):

"The rate of fire of the DE HAVEN and RADFORD was extremely high and the battery performance appeared to be excellent."

CTF 67 Comment:

"There is fairly conclusive evidence that the RADFORD tracked a plane in with full radar control and shot it down."  
\* \* \* \* \*

This is probably the first instance where a plane has been tracked in at night, fire opened, the "pip" seen to disappear, and the plane observed to fall.  
\* \* \* \* \*

"Enclosures indicate conclusively the effectiveness of these destroyers in night bombardments and attest the high rate and accuracy of thier fire. The destroyers, as expected, carried out their assignment perfectly."

00 - 04

Yesterday was December's last  
Today's the second, time goes fast!  
For us no New Year's has there been  
As we steam on with Force Eighteen.

The reason is that just at nine  
The Good Ship RADFORD crossed the line.  
So now all hands can boast quite true  
They're Shellbacks and Golden Dragons too!

GIFFEN, Admiral is our Pa  
And is riding in the WICHITA  
In cruising pattern one we're seen  
We're number two in five George screen.

The ship's on course two eight five true  
The stars are out, sky blackish blue  
Two hundred sixty five is right  
For Standard Compass Course tonight.

We're steaming on at speed sixteen  
All's clear ahead, so says our screen  
Fifteen knots is standard speed  
One four four turns is all we need.

We're using boilers one and four,  
Steaming on just one, no more  
For now we're where the sea may be  
Infested with the Japanese!

Most nights at sea are quite alike  
Baker's set, as is two Mike  
The ship is darkened so that we  
Won't for a sub a target be.

And so the RADFORD steams ahead  
No running lights of green and red  
Prepared to fight with any foe  
And strike for Freedom one more blow.

0948



February 5, 1957

My dear Miss Cummings:

There seems to be a "gremlin" in our apartment house for, although I every now and then set the thermostat with care at about 70°F, I wake up in the night finding my throat dry and burning, etc., and then discover that the thermostat had been re-set to temperatures ranging from 78°F to 80°F. I promptly turn it back to 70°F.

I think it would be a very nice thing if you would help me find out who this "gremlin" is so that we can maintain proper temperatures in our apartment house. In this connection, and I have checked up on this, the proper temperature is approximately 70°F.

If I catch the gremlin, I plan to tell "it" what the normal temperature should be--that is, 70°F. I am afraid that in "gremlin land" temperatures are normally maintained at considerably higher degrees than are temperatures here in our present-day America.

With hopes that you will consent to help me, I am, with best regards,

Very sincerely yours,

R. W. BATES

Miss. Margaret Cummings  
12 Mount Vernon  
Newport, R.I.

0949

February 7, 1957

Dear Lil:

I received your letter yesterday and am hurrying to reply to it because I realize that, if I don't operate now, you will be underway on your long trek to Mexico City before you ever receive this reply.

In the first place, the reason I didn't mention Lynde's portrait is because it is still under, and in the middle of, a battle. Everybody, up to the highest level, admits that the portrait should be made; everybody wants to help but, just when we think we have it all lined up, a roadblock is thrown by some law or some board and the matter is stopped.

I was in Washington but two weeks ago and the matter was taken up. I discovered then that BuPers had turned down our request for \$500 to have Colonel Capolino (the Marine Corps artist who painted Admiral Beary and all of the Commandants of the Marine Corps very successfully) paint Lynde. This irritated me because I had submitted the request in exactly the form suggested by BuPers. I am now informed that BuPers is at present endeavoring to find some other way of getting the \$500.

For your information, Colonel Capolino agreed to paint the portrait for \$500. Albert Murray wants \$4,000 and Dwight Shepler \$1500. I feel confident that somehow we will get Lynde's portrait up here where it belongs and I want you to feel that we haven't forgotten about it; not in the least.

The next thing I wish to say is that neither of those two gentlemen to whom you referred in your letter have been invited to GSD this year. I spoke to Tom about it yesterday because I hadn't even heard of them. Tom said that he had had to scratch almost everybody in Newport because (a) the demands from the Commandants of the First and Third Naval Districts were great, and (b) the people recommended by these commandants were apparently of such economic stature that he felt Newport had to take a backseat for the present anyway. As far as I know, the only Newporters invited are the Reverend Lockett F. Ballard and Mr. Emil Jemail. Reverend Ballard has been invited in accordance with the long established custom of having some members of the church in these meetings for the spiritual side. So far, we have had, among others, Father Gerald Dillon, Reverend Carl Bare, Reverend Quinby Williams, and Reverend William Buell. Mr Jemail has always been invited by all Presidents of the War College because of the Daily News.

0950

February 7, 1957

I hope you won't feel too badly about this. Tom felt upset that you feel this way about it, but he feels his decision in the matter is correct and, of course, it is now too late to endeavor to clear anybody else with Washington.

When I was out on the coast over the Christmas holidays, I checked up on your movements and discovered you were in Ensenada. Your letter to me verifies that.

I am awfully glad that you are having such a friendly association down there with your old pals. I knew that when you got around San Diego, and the Navy there, you would get a feeling of relief. I was therefore somewhat surprised when I noticed that you said you were going to Washington next winter and then would decide where you were going to live. You have certainly made an analysis of the different places!

Your trip to Mexico City should be very interesting. I have a friend there, a Mr. Meredith Parker, a fine fellow with whom I was raised in Alameda, who is a member of the Bohemian Club of San Francisco and who produces Motion pictures. I don't know what his address is but you might look it up in the telephone directory if you are interested and at least say "hello". Meanwhile, I am enclosing another name: Richard K. Tompkins

Home -- Corredores #59

Colonia Churbusco,  
Mexico, D.F.

Business -- Dibujos Animados, Sa

Fray Servando Teresa De Mier No.9

Since Mr. Tompkins is a brother of Colonel Tompkins, USMC, here at the War College, whom you knew--his wife is Julie Vogel--you should call him up. In fact, Colonel Tompkins is going to drop his brother a note to say that you may call. It could be that Mr. Tompkins and Mr. Parker know one another. Jack Bergen's daughter also lives there but I don't remember her name. Perhaps you do!

We have had quite a winter here. Despite your love of winter, I don't believe you would have loved this one. The temperatures have been very low for long periods of time--often anywhere from -10° to -20°. The roads have been in bad shape and nearly everyone, who could, has gotten out. The last to leave is Cynthia Cary, who will be leaving today, I think, for Nassau. Practically none of your friends are here at the present moment. I went to a couple of parties for Cynthia and I verified my opinion that our Bellevue friends here are very few. The Dyers come up once in a while to look over their place but, except for them, nearly everyone has gone.

0951

February 7, 1957

Fortunately for those that went to Palm Beach, the weather there seems to have been somewhat better than was to be expected. I understand that a delightful time has been had by all. Tony Kloman has just come up from there and had told me about it.

Despite all this, things have been rather gay on occasions. The New Years party, given by a group at the Cushing's studio, was wonderful. A bunch of the foreign officers were invited (and came) and they had a grand time. Needless to say, I did too. I had just returned from California and I felt in a gay mood. Then, the Howard Cushings had their 27th Wedding Anniversary with about twenty guests, all of whom have faded away again, including Howard Cushing himself who has gone to Palm Beach where he is to be the "best man" at a wedding. I wrote a poem for the above affair and, to my great surprise, it made quite a hit, primarily because I didn't extoll the Cushings too much-- I just made delicate cracks about the way Mary measured her hen eggs, etc. Howard said that it was the best exposition of the Cushing family that he had heard anywhere.

The War College is going along very well and I think you and Lynde would be pleased. Of course, we are nearing the end of the year now and big problems are coming up for the students and the staff. Lynde was always very interested in those big problems and I think he would have been most pleased with the College's handling of them as we have learned a lot from the past problems.

Let me wish you all happiness and lets hope that this trip that you are about to take will be as wonderful as you hope it will be. Give my best to Louise Riefnsider, to Dolph Styer, whom I knew and liked exceedingly well in the Philippines. Whick Kirk is going with you?

With warmest regards, I am, as ever,

Your old friend,

R. W. BATES

Mrs. Lynde D. McCormick  
1209 Third Street  
Coronado, California

0952

January 25, 1957

Dear Captain Kinsella:

I was very pleased to see that you had relieved Weatherwax in that important billet of Administrative Aide to the Vice Chief of Naval Operations.

I like seeing you there not only because I know that you will do the job in a fine manner but also because I like to see friends in key spots.

I have those papers which you gave to me concerning the Cordiner Report and I have been looking them over. I have been surprised to discover that there seems to be nothing said anywhere relative to 'commutation and quarters'. Does this proposed bill plan to remove that completely? If so, is there much gain? I mention this because of the immediate increase of the tax rate for those that get it.

Outside of that, it was nice to see you. Many thanks to you and Colonel Anderson for your help to me down there in Washington.

With best regards, I am,

Very sincerely yours,

R. W. BATES

Captain W.T. Kinsella, USN  
Room 4E614  
Office of the CNO  
Department of the Navy  
Washington 25, D.C.

0953

January 25, 1957

Dear Captain Davis:

I want to thank you very much for your friendly interest in my problems here in the WW II Battle Evaluation Group and, in particular, for the friendly manner in which you have solved my problem relative to Chief Quartermaster Trembath. The new arrangement which you have promised to put into effect will, I think, clear up the matter as well as possible. I therefore give you thanks.

I was sorry that it was necessary to bother you about the "pay" bill, but, as I said on the telephone, there is some question about it in my mind. This is because I am interested in knowing whether or not this proposed bill does away with 'commutation and quarters'. I don't believe it does, but it could well do so. If it does, the increase in pay would possibly be more theoretical than real because it would all be taxable.

Except for that, everything is fine up here. Give my best regards to Captain Hartman, and, as for yourself, many thanks once again.

With best regards, I am, as ever,

Very sincerely yours,

R. W. BATES

Captain R. P. Davis, USN  
Director, Enlisted Personnel Div  
Bureau of Naval Personnel  
Navy Department  
Washington 25, D.C.

0954

February 15, 1957

Dear Judge Carroll:

I want to thank you very much for your letter of February 1st, 1957. I had not forgotten about the promise to get the flags for you but, when my parents died, the flags were transferred to the custody of one of my brothers. Thus, it took some time to find them.

I now have the flags here at the Naval War College. There are five of them and, since they represent actions which occurred during the time I was in command, they include only the operations in the Pacific which had commenced the movement to the westward preliminary to the seizure of the Philippines and Okinawa. Therefore, the events they represent are listed in the following order and embrace:

(1) the operations off Tarawa and Kwajalein at the end of January and early February 1944.

(2) action in the Truk area on February 17th, 1944. These were primarily the air strikes made by the FIFTH Fleet under Admiral R.A. Spruance wherein we endeavored to destroy the Japanese air power at Truk and where Admiral Spruance, with the NEW JERSEY, IOWA, MINNEAPOLIS, and NEW ORLEANS, circled Truk.

(3) action in the Saipan area on February 22nd - 23rd, 1944. This was the air strikes made by two of the carrier task groups against Saipan. These task groups had been attacked all night by Japanese planes, most of which were shot down.

(4) the attack on Palau Island on March 30th, 1944.

(5) the attack on the Humboldt Bay area (Hollandia, New Guinea) on April 21st - 22nd, 1944.

It seems to me that it might be well if we have made up here at the Naval War College a small card which could be put with these flags--if you plan to display them anywhere. I should appreciate your reactions in this matter.

0955

February 15, 1957

I want you to know also that I appreciate your interest in these flags and the interest of others such, as you say, the Presidents of the Historical Society and of the Navy League there.

The flags are not clean; they are in exactly the same condition as when they were hauled down. Therefore, they are soiled and smoke-stained, ripped, and everything which could be expected incident to high-speed operations in World War II.

With best regards, with apologies that I have put you at such a disadvantage with your friends, I am, as ever,

Very sincerely yours,

R. W. BATES

Paul S. Carroll, Judge  
District Court  
Minneapolis 15, Minn.

0956



February 18, 1957

Dear Tony:

In looking through my papers, I ran across a card from you showing that you were in the U.S. I am awfully sorry that I did not see you because you and I have been friends for a very long time. I hear about you every now and then; one of your old friends, Ted Breed, often talks of you. However, since Ted's mother died, I think he has discontinued his European jaunts. As you know, he purchased his mother's house in Philadelphia from his brothers and sisters and he also purchased the house on Cape Cod. Despite this fact and the fact that he is now pretty well set up, he is frightfully full of unrest. Every now and then he criticizes me for not writing to him; the inference is that I have forgotten him. I am not saying this in an unfriendly way because I am extremely fond of him; in fact, he is one of my very best friends, but he bothers me because, having little to do, he becomes emotional--he is musical you know.

I don't know when I will ever get to Italy. I have wanted to go for many years, possibly to get some stamps for some of the people in my office (so if, by any chance, you have any Italian stamps in your possession that you don't care for, just shove them into an envelope and send them to me and a couple of members of my staff will give you thanks, at least mentally).

You are quite right, Lynde's passing was a serious shock. Lillian has been wandering around trying to find a place where she feels she could rest, at least for a time. She has tried San Francisco and now is parked in Coronado in an apartment and, if you wish to write to her, the address is Mrs. Lynde D. McCormick, 1209 Third Street, Coronado. She has spent most of her time in Mexico. Having recently returned from Ensenada, she is now on about a three-month trip to Mexico City in a caravan of four automobiles with many of her friends, among whom are Louise Riefsnider, General and Mrs. Dolph Styer, and the Kirks--what Kirks I do not know. She says that she is going to make a final decision next Fall as to where she will live. So, by the end of this coming Fall, she will move to the east coast in the vicinity of Washington to stay for a while to see whether she likes it better there than in Coronado; if she does, it is highly possible that she will "anchor" there.

0957

February 18, 1957

Outside of that, there isn't much going on. Many of our old friends are departing this life because of heart attacks and, because of Lynde's attack in particular, the Naval high command has been very anxious to insure that everyone is properly examined on their annual examinations (particularly flag officers) to insure that they are all sound. This, I hope, will prove effective, although the specialists say that no one knows the answer.

I hope that you and Consuelo are fine. You have certainly been over in Italy long enough to know enough people and to become organized enough to be fine. Don't work too hard and don't let the grim reaper overcome you ahead of time!

With best regards, and with many thanks for your note, I am, as ever,

Your old friend,

R. W. BATES

RADM H. W. Zirolì, USN(Ret)  
Palazzo Taverna  
Via Monte Giordano, 36  
Roma

0958

18 March 1957

Registry of Motor Vehicles  
State Office Building  
Providence 2, R.I.

Dear Sir:

I enclose herewith the required forms for registration of my automobile in the State of Rhode Island of which I am a resident and, in addition, the necessary fee for registration.

In this connection, I should like very much to be provided with license plates with as low a number as available. I realize that this is an unusual request and therefore I offer a few of the more significant motivations for the request.

In my present status as a Commodore of the United States Navy on active duty at the Naval War College (where I have been serving continuously since 1946), because of the customs of the Naval Service, I assume a position of third senior officer in the "chain of command" in the Naval War College. It is customary for the Naval War College, because of such status, to give me a Naval War College identification sticker with the number "3". This number is given to facilitate immediate recognition by the sentries at the Naval Station gates and throughout the Naval Station.

However, since this number because of its size and location is not too easily distinguishable, at least not until the automobile is alongside the sentry, it would be a great aid in eliminating errors in recognition if I were furnished with a number in consonance with the low number assigned by the Naval War College.

Of course, I realize that I cannot expect to have a number as low as "3" at this late date but I should appreciate one as low as possible. If a low number cannot be obtained with the letters "RB" then a low number without the letters or with a single letter (such as "R" or "B") or with a double letter combination (such as "RW" for Richard Waller) would be quite satisfactory. The number I have been temporarily assigned by the State of Rhode Island (as on the forms) is RB 881. If it should happen that a lower number is not available, the present number is satisfactory.

Perhaps it might be well to refer this matter to the Governor.

Yours truly,

R. W. BATES,  
Commodore, U.S. Navy  
(Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy(Ret))

0959

March 20, 1957

Dear Mr. Knowland:

Last week I had the good fortune to be a guest at the Charter Day ceremonies of Long Island University, of which the President is a former Admiral of the Navy, Richard L. Conolly.

I was an honorary guest and sat on the dais just below your son, Senator William F. Knowland. If Bill hasn't told you, he was there not only to give the principal address but also to receive a degree of Doctor of Laws.

There was a reception beforehand; i.e., a form of cocktail party, where certain guests were given the privilege of meeting certain other guests. The very important guests besides the Senator were Cardinal Spellman, Trygve Halvdan Lie (the former head of the U.N.), and Dr. Howard A. Rusk. The enclosed program will give you the information.

I was very happy to see Bill and to get a good look at him since he is in a very difficult position, as well as in a very important position, in the government of the United States, and I wanted to see whether the strain of all of this was wearing on him. He looked excellent, very happy and confident, and I am sure that his appearance would be satisfying to you.

He gave a very fine talk, making some very strong points--one having to do with aid to Poland--and received a fine hand. He is a son to be proud of and I look for him, despite his presently planned retirement from the Senate, to continue to be a very important part of our national life. We need men like him!

0960

March 20, 1957

I hope to be in California this summer at which time I shall, as usual, drop over to say "hello". I am always happy that I know the Knowland family and particularly happy to know that my appointment to the Naval Academy came from the senior member of the Knowland firm, notably from yourself.

With best regards, I am,

Very sincerely yours,

R. W. BATES  
Rear Admiral

Mr. Joseph R. Knowland  
Oakland Tribune  
Tribune Building  
Oakland, California

0961

March 21, 1957

Dear Bill:

I was certainly pleased to see you, and to hear you talk, the other night at the Charter Day Dinner of Long Island University at the Waldorf Astoria. I was also very pleased to note that you had been honored with a degree of Doctor of Laws. I talked to many people there and discovered that, in view of your importance in the national field, everyone was anxious to see and hear you. Therefore, your presence had a lot to do with the success of the Charter Day Dinner.

Admiral Conolly told me that he thought your address was one of the best he had ever heard in his life and I thoroughly agree with him, as do numerous others.

There isn't any doubt in my mind that men of your character with your willingness to say what you believe are most important to the national welfare. It is therefore with considerable concern that I note that you have decided to give up your position as a Senator of the United States and with it the position of minority or majority (depending on circumstances) leader of the Senate.

I can understand very well why you desire to get back to your newspaper, and I certainly hope that you won't regret your decision to do so. However, I am afraid that you will, for the history of mankind shows that once a man has exercised the responsibilities of high political power he usually finds private life extremely tedious. The only person I can recall who reportedly did not find it so was our old Roman friend Cincinnatus. I wonder what newspaper reporter produced this scoop?

0962

March 21, 1957

I have written to your father and sent him a program so that he may know how those of us who have been brought up under the shade of the Knowland family feel about the successes of its members.

With best regards, I am, as ever,

Your old friend,

R. W. BATES

Honorable William F. Knowland  
United States Senate  
Washington 25, D.C.

0963

22 March 1957

Dear Slim:

It was with a great deal of interest that I noted that you had been assigned to the Presidency of the Naval War College. This naturally was great news to us all, although I must say that for the first time in my life I had no "leaks". I did know that the High Command was seeking for this assignment a Vice Admiral of marked ability with a wife who, in her own way, was equally remarkable. I was told this very forcibly and I can assure you that it is a fact.

The Naval War College is a great place! I have been here for quite a long time and whether you know it or not I am still here where I am working on the study of the Battle for Leyte Gulf. This study is very interesting and very time-consuming, but I think that in the end it will prove well worth the effort. All of the past Presidents of the Naval War College have approved of what I am doing and I have hopes that you will likewise. If you are interested in it at all, "Beak" knows all about it.

We have had quite a Winter around here--one of the worst in fact--but now that Spring has come (or is beginning to come) everyone seems to have forgotten that it was only two days ago that we had eight inches of snow. As an old sailor you won't be too concerned about the weather. Mark Twain said, "Nobody does anything about it" and, very frankly, no one does or can. Our seasons here sometime shift rapidly (and again, sometimes not at all). For example, I wouldn't be at all surprised if we swung from our late Winter into an early Summer with very little Spring. So, if you are not too acquainted with the Newport weather, don't listen too much to what people say about it; you will find out for yourself and will probably have good luck and enjoy good weather all the time you are here. It is du\$!

I look forward to your arrival with a great deal of pleasure. All of our past Presidents have been men of great consequence and already the people in the area are asking questions about you. I tell them that when you arrive they will be quite content. These questions are being asked in this area because Newport is quite

0964



22 March 1957

a social area as well as being important militarily. There are a lot of "names" up here, if they mean much to you.

I suppose you will see "Beak" out there and, if you do, give him my best. Meanwhile, if there is anything I can do for you, I shall be most happy to do so. Robbins will be leaving presently, but I will be here, at least until the end of the fiscal year of 1958. That is as far as they can carry me and I have already been notified that I am to be on duty for that period of time. As you know, every retired officer has to be reassigned every year. This has been done for Fiscal Year 1958.

Once again, let me say that I am sure that you will enjoy your service here--I know that the College needs you for a lot of reasons (which I will explain when you get here)--and I also am sure that your cruise as President of this establishment will be a most successful one.

With best regards, I am, as ever,

Your old friend,

R. W. BATES

VADM S.H. Ingersoll, USN  
Commander,  
United States Taiwan Defense Command  
APO 63, Box 15  
San Francisco, California

0965

March 25, 1957

Dear Mary:

In accordance with my promise to you, I am forwarding herewith a draft of some of the thoughts I have relating to Mr. Winthrop Aldrich. I don't care what you do with this; you can use it in its entirety or modify it or even throw it away. It is merely a thought which I hope will be of some assistance to you.

You will note in it that I am not quite sure whether Mr. Aldrich was a graduate of Groton, but I put it in anyway. I know he was a graduate of Harvard; I know that your sister was an Alexander; I know that he has five adult children (and that one child died); and I know he was the head of the Chase Bank. Also I know that he was a U.S. Ambassador. More than that, I don't know.

So, if you choose to use this, you might desire to modify some of the paragraphs or put in an additional paragraph or so, notably just before "A graduate of Groton he", and anything else you wish.

It was awfully nice to see you on Friday night and I thought everyone seemed very pleased that you had honored Newport with your presence.

We look forward to seeing you up here presently and hope that the remainder of your stay in New York will be fine for both Sheldon and yourself. With best regards, I am, as ever,

Your old friend,

R. W. BATES

Mrs. Sheldon Whitehouse  
1040 5TH Avenue, N.Y., N.Y.

0966

ODS  
to  
Winthrop Aldrich

\* \* \*

Many years ago in Providence  
The Aldrich family were in suspense  
A baby was to be born this day  
A boy or girl they could not say.

But when at last the baby came  
Winthrop Williams was his name  
The family knew as a family can  
That he would be a famous man.

A graduate of Groton he  
Of Harvard University  
A fine example of a noble breed  
He represents the Ivy League.

And then he married a maid divine  
Harriet, of the Alexander line  
A marriage which all like to say  
Is going strong this very day.

His wedding did good fortune hoard  
Five adult children grace his festive board  
All of whom, handsome and gay  
Are heirs of the charming Aldrich way.

He went into the banking game  
'Twas here he made his greatest fame  
Achieved his highest banking rank  
Became the head of the great Chase Bank.

In this he was such a great success  
He was asked to correct the British mess  
And so being anxious to avoid a War  
Became U.S. Ambassador.

Here he displayed those talents rare  
That helped him up the worldly stair  
His charm and tact, his skill and wit  
Made him a "Court of St. James" hit.

But when his love of Country burned  
To home his footsteps he returned  
And took right up a life of ease  
With hopes of many anniversaries.

0967

1 April 1957

Dear Slim:

I have just discovered that the Aide to the President of the Naval War College, Lieutenant Commander McLane, is scheduled to remain here at least for another year.

Commander McLane, as you would suspect, was very carefully chosen by Admiral McCormick and, after the decease of Admiral McCormick, was retained by Admiral Robbins. He is considered very satisfactory and is fully familiar with the War College and with the activities of the townspeople, knowing most of them; i.e. those with whom the War College comes in contact. Therefore, it seems to me that it might be a wise move on your part to retain him also.

I have spoken to Commander McLane about this and asked him if he planned to remain; he said he didn't know but would like very much to do so.

In addition, I mentioned the matter to Admiral Robbins saying that I thought I would write a letter to you about it. To this, Admiral Robbins replied that he hoped that I would do so.

Outside of that, things are going along very well here. The weather is excellent at last, although during the past Winter we have had a lot of cold, snow, ice and hail; however, all of this is behind us (?)

The other day Jerry Wright came here and delivered a talk on Nato which was very interesting. Of course, you are very familiar with all of that so it is rather useless for me to discuss it here, except to say that everyone found it very much to the point.

If there is anything I can do for you, I shall be only too happy to do it. Again, please give my best regards to Beak if you see him and, as for yourself, here's looking forward to your arrival.

Your old friend,

R. W. BATES

VADM S.H. Ingersoll, USN  
Commander, United States Taiwan  
Defense Command  
APO 63, Box 15  
San Francisco, California

0968

9 April 1957

Dear Charlie:

It was with a great deal of satisfaction and pleasure that I learned that you had been ordered to the Naval War College as Chief of Staff. This is a most important assignment and one which requires the highest quality in the occupant of the office. That we have had that type of quality heretofore is quite plain when one realizes that since the war our Chiefs of Staff have been VADM "Cat" Brown (now commanding the SIXTH Fleet), ADM "Don" Felt (now Vice Chief of Naval Operations), VADM "Beak" Beakley (now commanding the SEVENTH Fleet) and, finally, RADM "Tommy" Robbins (now President of the Naval War College). That you will be as successful or even more successful than they goes without saying, so I feel that once again the War College has achieved great distinction in its Chief of Staff. I hear rumors that you will be up here shortly, so I may see you on the occasion of your visit (the DESLANT Ball).

I think you will be interested to know that you are very well remembered here by the civilians for your service as the head of the Strategy and Tactics Department. Many of the civilians have spoken to me with great pleasure about you because, as they said, when you were a member of the staff their association with you was all that could be desired. I think this is an important point because I have seen officers come here who have had problems with the civilian staff. Clearly, you will have none!

We have had quite a Winter up here and today is no exception to the rule. You, of course, are familiar with this area, but I must say that this Winter has "licked" them all. Why everybody hasn't had pneumonia or some equally outrageous disease I do not know. Colds have been abundant, but anything worse than that seems out of order. Perhaps, so far as the Navy is concerned, it has to do with the influenza injections which the Navy thinks have been quite effective.

You might be interested to know that I went down to New York the other day as a dais guest of Dick Conolly to attend the Charter Day ceremonies of Long Island University. Senator Knowland, Cardinal Spellman, Trygve Halvdan Lie (the former head of the UN) and Dr. Howard A. Rusk were the recipients of Doctor of Laws degrees. The whole thing was very successful and is merely an indication of Dick's success in civilian life in a manner similar to his service in the Navy where, of course, you and I know he excelled.

0969

9 April 1957

I personally am very happy about your forthcoming arrival here, not only because of your importance to the War College but also because during this Fall I will be completing the study of the Battle of Surigao Strait which had to do largely with major combatant and destroyer type operations. Your help and criticisms in this study will be very helpful to me.

Please give my best regards to your Mrs. and say how everyone looks forward to your assumption of duty here.

With best regards, I am, as ever,

Your old friend,

R. W. BATES

RADM Charles H. Lyman, III, USN  
Commander Destroyer Flotilla FOUR  
c/o Fleet Post Office  
New York, N.Y.

0970

4-10-57

DINNER AND PLAY, FRIDAY, 12 APRIL 1957

ACCEPTANCES

Admiral and Mrs. Robbins	Captain and Mrs. Baltazzi
Admiral Bates	Countess Pourtales
Mrs. Beck	Mrs. Prochet
Mrs. Brooks	Admiral and Mrs. Fahrion
Mrs. Cary	Commander and Mrs. Winslow
Mr. and Mrs. Dyer	
Colonel and Mrs. Pepys	
Mr. and Mrs. Pepys	
Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Richmond	
Mr. and Mrs. Rives	
Mr. and Mrs. Strawbridge	
Mrs. Altemus	
Mr. Judge	
Mr. and Mrs. William Grosvenor	
Mrs. Kane	
Mr. and Mrs. de Bodisco	
Mr. and Mrs. Blakeley	
Mrs. Duncan Douglas	
Mr. and Mrs. Wickes (for dinner - Mrs. Wickes for the Play)	
Mr. and Mrs. Nathaniel Hill	
Miss Carter	
Mrs. Andrews (for dinner)	
Captain and Mrs. Douglas	

0971

## REGRETS

Mr. and Mrs. Eyre  
Dr. and Mrs. Adams  
Mr. Beck  
Mr. Brooks  
Mr. and Mrs. Auchincloss  
Mrs. Bruguere  
Mr. and Mrs. Clagett  
Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Clark  
Mr. and Mrs. Preston Davie  
Mr. and Mrs. Albert Dewey  
Mr. and Mrs. Barclay Douglas  
Mr. and Mrs. J. Gordon Douglas  
Mr. and Mrs. Firestone  
Mr. and Mrs. Persifor Frazer  
Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Grosvenor  
Mr. and Mrs. Crawford Hill  
Mr. and Mrs. Mecleary  
Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Monroe  
Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Morris  
Mrs. C. Oliver O'Donnell  
Mr. and Mrs. V. Z. Reed  
Mr. Prochet  
Mr. and Mrs. Archbold Van Beuren  
Mr. and Mrs. Warren  
Mr. and Mrs. West  
Mr. and Mrs. Norman Whitehouse  
Mr. and Mrs. Sheldon Whitehouse  
Mr. and Mrs. Howard Cushing  
Mr. Robert Goelet  
General Little  
Mrs. Reginald Norman  
Miss Berwind  
Mrs. McIlwaine  
Mrs. R. W. Goelet  
Mr. and Mrs. Lanier  
Mr. and Mrs. Henry Phelps  
Mr. Robert Phelps  
Mrs. Moffett  
Mr. and Mrs. Russell  
Mr. Hagerman  
Mr. and Mrs. Lorillard  
Mrs. Sands  
Mr. and Mrs. Dick  
Mr. and Mrs. O'Donnell  
Mr. and Mrs. Van Alen

Father Dillon

Mr. and Mrs. Jelke

Mr. and Mrs. LeRoy King

## NO REPLY

Mr. and Mrs. Holmsen

Mr. and Mrs. Cook

44 Acceptances -dinner; 42-play

80 regrets

2 no reply



11 April 1957

Dear Draper:

In accordance with my statement on the telephone this morning that I was planning to write you a letter relative to your new assignment, I am now doing just that. But, before I do so, I want to say that I am sorry to have troubled you with reference to the graduation address at the Naval War College. I felt pretty sure that the Secretary wouldn't be able to do so; however, he is so important and is such a wonderful gentleman that we all hoped here that things might break in our favor. Alas! they did not. You might tell the Secretary that we shall all look for him on another day.

I want to tell you of how delighted I was to note that you have moved up with the Secretary as his Aide. Of course, I knew that it was planned that way, but, as all planners know, things happen for one reason or another to prevent the normal course of events from running true to form.

I personally am very happy that the Secretary saw fit to bring you with him. There is no doubt that you are one of our Naval War College "prize packages" and I look for you "to go places" in continuation of your present upward rise.

You are ideally suited for the job you are in, just as you were ideally suited for the job last held with the Under Secretary of the Navy. I noted then how you handled yourself and how you protected the Secretary on many occasions from outside influences which shouldn't be permitted to bother him. One of these, of course, was the conduct of the local Newporters who insisted on calling the

0973

11 April 1957

Under Secretary about the Refinery. You spoke to me about this and I spoke to them, and then and there they agreed to stop. I am sure they did, although it is possible that here and there someone may have gotten adrift.

Let me wish you and the Secretary all success in your new assignments, and may I wish you and your family all happiness. With best regards, I am, as ever,

Your old friend,

R. W. BATES

CAPT D. L. Kauffman, USN  
Naval Aide  
Office of the Secretary  
Navy Department  
Washington 25, D.C.

0974